



## United States Fish & Wildlife Service

**DO NOT REPLY TO THIS ADDRESS - SEE MESSAGE FOR CONTACT INFO!**

02/05/2003

### Memorandum

**From** AD-Budg, Planning & Hum Res

**Subject** **Opportunity for Certain Former Blue Cross and Blue Shield (BCBS) Service Benefit Plan and CareFirst Blue Choice Members to Change Enrollment**

Carefirst Blue Cross and Blue Shield (BCBS) and Children's Hospital were involved in a lengthy contract dispute which continued beyond the close of FEHB Open Season which ended on December 9, 2002. The OPM staff monitored the negotiations process from the inception in preparation to take appropriate action as soon as the dispute was resolved. CareFirst BCBS and Children's Hospital have now announced they have reached an agreement, and Children's Hospital will continue to participate in CareFirst BCBS's preferred provider network for the next three years.

If you were previously enrolled in BCBS or CareFirst Blue Choice and switched your health plan because of the dispute, you are now eligible to make a belated open season change to switch back to BCBS or CareFirst Blue Choice. **However, if you filed a claim under your new plan since January 12, 2003, you are not eligible to make a belated open season change to switch back to BCBS or CareFirst Blue Choice.**

The opportunity to change begins **now through March 3, 2003**. The change will be effective January 12, 2003.

If you are interested in making this change, please submit an [SF-2809, Health Benefits Election Form](#) to Headquarters Human Resources, MS-HR 2000 **no later than March 3, 2003**. You may download the [SF-2809](#) at <http://www.opm.gov/forms/index.asp>.

Please contact Senia M. Tucker at (703) 358-2580 if you have any questions.

---

*Our mission is working with others to conserve , protect, and enhance, fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit to the American people.*